

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:CWFREEMAN, JR.:CED

7/16/73 EXT. 20708

APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL, JR.

EA/PRCM:OVARMSTRONG

CU/EA:FTENNY

WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS: MR. LOEFFKE

S/S - MR. GAMMON

H - MR. SOLOMON

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P 172221Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140322

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, CH

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS ESCORT

REF: PEKING 0559, HONG KONG 7100

1. WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS DIRECTOR BERNARD LOEFFKE CALLED PRCLO (TSIEN TA-YUNG) SATURDAY TO CONFIRM THAT CHAIRMAN OF WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM, MR. DALE, WOULD NOT BE GOING TO CHINA, AND TO REQUEST INCLUSION OF ESCORT OFFICER JOHN JAY TAYLOR OF AMCONGEN HONG KONG IN TOUR. HE NOTED THAT THIS DID NOT REPRESENT INCREASE IN TOUR GROUP SIZE AND THAT POSSIBILITY OF USG CHINESE-LANGUAGE ESCORT OFFICER WAS NOT NEW SUBJECT BUT HAD BEEN MENTIONED TO PRCLO AT OUTSET.

2. TSIEN ASKED WHETHER INCLUSION OF TAYLOR WAS "STATE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTION". LOEFFKE RESPONDED THAT INITIAL MENTION OF MATTER TO PRCLO WAS NOT AT SUGGESTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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STATE DEPT., BUT THAT GROUP HAD RECENTLY ASKED STATE

DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE ESCORT OFFICER AND THAT DEPARTMENT HAD NOMINATED TAYLOR. HE EXPLAINED THAT GROUP FELT ESCORT OFFICER WOULD BE HELPFUL TO IT.

3. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION, TSIEN MADE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS: 1) ESCORT OFFICER NOT NECESSARY SINCE PRC PROVIDING INTERPRETERS AND ESCORTS WHO COULD TAKE CARE

OF GROUP; 2) IF ANY PROBLEMS AROSE, USLO IN PEKING COULD SURELY HANDLE THEM; 3) ADDITION OF "CONSULAR OFFICER" FROM HONG KONG WOULD CHANGE CHARACTER OF GROUP AND MIGHT REQUIRE SOME CHANGES IN TOUR ITINERARY; 4) HE (TSIEN) COULD TAKE UP MATTER WITH PEKING, BUT PRESUMED MR. LOEFFKE WOULD "UNDERSTAND THAT THAT MIGHT NOT BE PROPERLY VIEWED."

4. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, WE HAVE DECIDED NOT RPT NOT TO PRESS FOR PRC ACCEPTANCE OF HONG KONG CONGEN ESCORT FOR WH FELLOWS. WE DO FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THAT A USLO OFFICER ACCOMPANY THE GROUP. REQUEST YOU SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO CONFIRM THIS WITH PRC AUTHORITIES. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST OF THEIR POSITION.

5. WE WILL SEND MESSAGE LATER ON POSSIBLE NEED TO OBTAIN FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF PRC POLICY ON ESCORTS. RUSH

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